

Amendment to the Claims

Claims 1-40 (Canceled)

41. (New) A transgenic mouse having a null ubiquitin ligase E3 allele, said allele comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; said null allele comprising exogenous DNA encoding a selection marker and a visible marker.
42. (New) The transgenic mouse of claim 41 wherein said mouse is heterozygous for said null allele.
43. (New) The transgenic mouse of claim 41 wherein said mouse is homozygous for said null allele.
44. (New) The transgenic mouse of claim 43 wherein said mouse exhibits increased incidence of embryonic lethality.
45. (New) The transgenic mouse of claim 41 wherein said selection marker is a neomycin resistance gene.
46. (New) The transgenic mouse of claim 41 wherein said visible marker is lacZ.